

# **Program Approval and Initial Institutional Approval**

## **Request for Initial Institutional Approval**

Antioch University received initial institutional approval from the Commission on May 27, 1999 as part of the out-of-state accreditation pilot study. On June 22, 2007 the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) recognized Antioch University Santa Barbara and Antioch University Los Angeles as two separate entities. Therefore, this agenda item now requests Commission action to approve each campus as an individual educator preparation institution. Antioch University's first president, Horace Mann, was considered the architect of public education in the United States. As an institution, Antioch has always been committed to K-12 public education. Because teacher education at Antioch is highly valued, the University supports its teacher education programs on par with other graduate programs.

The cornerstone of Antioch University's educational philosophy is a tripartite model of academic excellence, experiential learning, and social engagement. Throughout its history, Antioch has engaged students in a critical exploration of values, fostered concern for social issues, and encouraged students to act for social justice. This model is reflected in the design, mission, and objectives of the Master of Arts in Education and Teacher Credentialing (MAE/TC) Program at Antioch University, which sees teaching as a way to effect social change.

### ***Antioch University Los Angeles***

Antioch University Los Angeles (AULA) is an independent campus within the Antioch University system, which consists of six campuses in 5 states. The campus serves approximately 800 students. AULA's Education Program maintains two credential preparation programs (Multiple Subject and Education Specialist Level I Mild/Moderate). The program's mission and vision are consistent with the University's highly successful and long-standing teacher preparation programs at its other campuses in Ohio, New Hampshire, Santa Barbara, and Washington.

### ***Antioch University Santa Barbara***

Antioch University Santa Barbara (AUSB) is an independent campus within the Antioch University system, which consists of six campuses in 5 states. The campus serves a total of approximately 350 students. AUSB's Department of Education maintains two credential preparation programs (Multiple Subject and Education Specialist Level I Mild/Moderate). The program's mission and vision are consistent with the University's highly successful and long-standing teacher preparation programs at its other campuses in Ohio, New Hampshire, Los Angeles, and Washington.

Antioch University Los Angeles and Antioch University Santa Barbara have each submitted a complete response to the Commission's Preconditions and Common Standards. The responses to the preconditions and standards were reviewed by Commission staff and were determined to be appropriate for this first level of review. Commission action to grant initial approval will award initial institutional approval to the two universities and allow each to offer educator preparation programs.

## **II. Recommendation for Approval of Single Subject Matter Programs**

### **Background**

The Commission regularly receives recommendations for program approval from single subject matter review panels. These panels of subject matter experts review all program documentation and make an informed determination as to whether the program meets the standards common to all subject matter programs and the subject specific subject matter standards. The subject specific subject matter standards are closely aligned to the K-12 academic standards. These subject matter programs are usually undergraduate courses of study completed before candidates begin teacher preparation programs. However, in some cases they are completed concurrently with teacher preparation programs.

### **Subject Matter Program Review Procedures**

Following are the general procedures for the review of subject matter programs:

1. Technical Assistance – After the Commission adopts a set of new program standards, Commission staff members provide technical assistance to prospective program sponsors wishing to submit responses to the new standards. Technical assistance materials are provided on the Commission’s website. Staff members train, assign, and coordinate review team work.
2. Preconditions Review – After the program proposal is received, Commission staff review the sponsor’s response to the preconditions. The preconditions are based on both state laws and Commission policies, and address minimum unit and content area requirements. If the preconditions response is incomplete, the sponsor is requested to provide specific information necessary for compliance with the preconditions.
3. Program Review –The program sponsor’s responses to the Commission’s subject matter program standards are reviewed by a team of two or more subject matter educators to determine if the program meets the program standards, including the subject matter requirements (SMRs). The SMRs are the content knowledge required to be covered in the program and are aligned to the K-12 content standards that the candidate will be expected to know. The reviewers are trained in the alignment of the standards and subject matter requirements and in the review process before they are assigned proposals to review. Reviewers are instructed to find explicit evidence that programs not only align with K-12 content standards but also introduce their candidates to those standards within the context of their subject matter studies. The team must reach consensus that each standard is met based upon evidence provided in the document. If the program does not meet the standards, the sponsor is given an explanation of the findings. The sponsor may then submit the additional information requested. Once reviewers determine that the program proposal provides a convincing and adequate body of evidence to meet the Commission’s adopted subject matter program standards, the program is recommended to the Commission for approval.
4. After subject matter program approval is granted by the Commission, the institution may accept candidates in the approved subject matter program. Graduates of a Commission approved single subject matter preparation program meet the Commission’s subject matter requirement and are not required to take the subject matter examination (CSET). This report presents three

single subject matter programs which have been deemed to have met all of the appropriate *Standards of Quality and Effectiveness for Single Subject Matter Preparation Programs* ([www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/STDS-subject-matter.html](http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/STDS-subject-matter.html)) by the appropriate review panel and are recommended to the Commission for approval.

**Recommendations**

Based upon a determination by a review panel that the following entities have met all relevant standards and requirements, staff recommends Commission approval of the following:

**Initial Institutional Approval**

Antioch University Los Angeles

Antioch University Santa Barbara